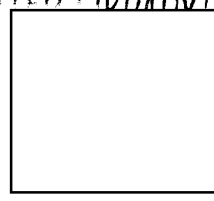


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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT



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COUNTRY USSR (Uzbek)

DATE:

SUBJECT 1. PW Camp at Samarkand
2. Rolling Mill and Coal Mines at Samarkand

DIST. 7 January 1948

PAGES 2
SUPPLEMENT

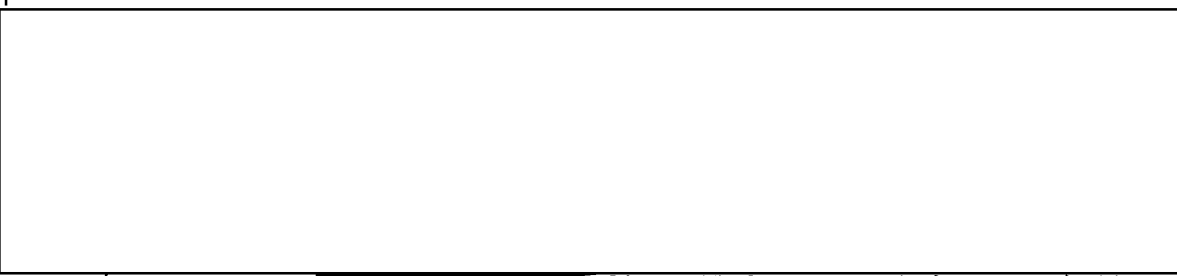
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In June 1947, [redacted] the dismantled equipment from Auschwitz at a large unloading depot on the rail line near Samarkand. The equipment was recognized by crate markings and inspection of the contents of some opened crates. This equipment apparently had been unloaded some time before and nothing had been done to preserve it; parts inspected [redacted] were so rusted as to have lost fifty percent of value.

- Of the 12,000 German PWs in the Samarkand camp, 4,000 were released and returned to Germany in September 1947. These were all sick men or those unfit to work - in camp slang, "ohne-Kraft-Männer". Soviet officers declared that the remaining 8,000 PWs would be back in Germany by 31 December 1947.
- Conspicuous improvement in the treatment of PWs began during the summer of 1947. This was most evident in the treatment accorded the sick and the dead. Prior to this time, the dead were buried without any record of name and other statistics. Accurate records are now kept on all sick cases and a Soviet medical officer inspects the camp every two weeks. Death records must be signed by the German camp doctor, German camp chief, Soviet medical officer, and Soviet commander.
- Large scale mining, above and below the surface, started in the Samarkand area in late 1945. In spring 1946, a number of Russians of German origin, mostly widowed women from the Volga and Black Sea regions, joined the PWs in mining work.
- Up to September 1947, when some shafts had reached 300 to 500 meter depths, Soviet engineers professed disappointment over the quality of coal found. This was either water-soaked and soft or in powdered form. It is of the same low grade as coal found in several Donbas mines and can be used only for household consumption or, at most, for locomotives. No better quality had been discovered at lower levels.

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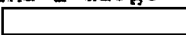
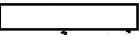
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7. Despite the product deficiency, the Russians are building up industries in the Samarkand area which can only be operated by high quality coal. A large rolling mill for steel sheeting and a large steel mill with Martin furnaces are being constructed.  25X1
-  Soviet engineers and technicians engaged in the Samarkand coal and steel industries are efficient and knowledgeable, but efficiency of the laborers is correspondingly low and approximately thirty percent of that manifested by Western European workers.

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